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FROM: NEW YORK

TO: Secretary of State DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MB

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RELEASED  DOWNGRADING IN PART  
 DELAYED  NO COOPERATIVE INFO

PRIORITY

FOC DO OR PA STATION/NAME

1. AUTHORITY TO

(1) CLASSIFY  DOWNGRADE  (2) OR (3) C. OADR

CUBA - AERIAL INSPECTION

MISSION OFFICERS VISITED BRIGADIER RIKHYE (SYG MILITARY ADVISOR) THIS MORNING TO EXPLORE WHETHER SYG PLANNING FOR SURVEILLANCE OF CUBA MISSILE SITES AND EQUIPMENT TOMORROW.

RIKHYE OUTLINED HIS CURRENT THINKING CALLING FOR SYG ACCCOMPANIED BY RIKHYE AND NUMBER OTHER OFFICERS TO LEAVE NEW YORK BY CHARTERED NEUTRAL AIRPLANE TUES MORNING. RIKHYE BELIEVED THIS EARLIEST TIME POSSIBLE FOR DEPARTURE DUE TO TIME REQUIRED TO ARRANGE FOR AND BRING TO NEW YORK NECESSARY OFFICERS TO COMPRIZE PARTY. PLANNED ON USING ETHIOPIAN MAJOR NOW PART UN MILITARY ADVISORY STAFF, SWEDISH COLONEL NOW NEW YORK WITH SWEDISH DEL AND OTHERS TO BE OBTAINED FROM NATIONS ACCEPTABLE US AND CUBA. UPON ARRIVAL HAVANA RIKHYE INTENDS SEND OFFICERS TO THOSE LOCATIONS INDICATED BY INFORMATION TO BE FURNISHED BY US TO HAVE MISSILES OR BOMBERS TO OBSERVE AND REPORT ON DISMANTLING AND REMOVAL. (EARLIER SYG HAD TOLD STEVENSON HE HAD ETHIOPIA, NIGERIA, GHANA, SWEDEN, YUGOSLAVIA, UAR, BRAZIL, MEXICO AND SWITZERLAND IN MIND. MISSION OFFICERS TOLD RIKHYE SELECTION OF LAS FROM BRAZIL AND MEXICO ONLY POLITICALLY UNWISE.)

OUR REPS ASKED WHAT, IF ANY, AERIAL RECONNAISSANCE RIKHYE CONTEMPLATED BETWEEN PRESENT TIME AND TUESDAY WHEN UN TEAM EXPECTED ARRIVE CUBA. HE INDICATED HE HAD NO FIRM PLANS FOR SUCH UN RECONNAISSANCE BUT WAS INTERESTED IN SUGGESTIONS IN THIS REGARD. US REPS POINTED OUT NEED FOR SYG TO BE INFORMED OF

CHANGES

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CHANGES IN SITE CONSTRUCTION AND EQUIPMENT LOCATION DURING THIS INTERVAL, PARTICULARLY WHILE US RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED, SUGGESTING AS POSSIBILITIES FOR FILLING THIS NEED USE WITH UN OBSERVERS OF CANADIAN PLANES, US PLANES, CHARTERED COMMERCIAL US AERIAL MAPPING PLANES OR NEUTRAL PLANES. RIKHYE INDICATED CANADIAN OR US PLANES OF ANY KIND PROBABLY WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE TO CUBA BUT THAT SOME SUCH PLAN USING OTHER PLANES (POSSIBLY MEXICAN) MIGHT BE PRACTICABLE. HE THOUGHT CUBANS WOULD DEMAND THAT ALL US RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS BE HALTED AS PREREQUISITE TO THEIR APPROVAL OF ANY SUCH UN FLIGHTS.

US REPS STATED THEY ONLY ASKED TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF UN FLIGHTS AT THIS TIME AND HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS ON WHAT US COULD DO.

RIKHYE WAS OF OPINION RUSSIANS WOULD PROBABLY TRY GET THEIR EQUIPMENT DISMANTLED AND MOVED FROM PRESENTLY KNOWN SITES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE IN ORDER TO PREVENT OR MINIMIZE OBSERVATION BY UN OBSERVERS.

RIKHYE SAID HE GLAD RECEIVE US VIEWS AND EXPECTED SYG REACH SOME CONCLUSION ON SUBJECT OF SURVEILLANCE FOR TOMORROW DURING AFTERNOON.

STEVENSON

MJA

Note: Advance copies to SS-O, 10/28/62, 11 PM, JAW.

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